

# Battle Ground Town Council

## Meeting Minutes, February 15, 2021

Attending: Council President James Miller, Councilors Matt Coppock, Steve Hahn, Greg Jones, Mary Jo Totten, Clerk Treasurer Georgia Jones.

Guests: Doug Tischbein, Greg Martz, Bill Jones, Colin Dale, Colin Sullivan, Dave Buck

James Miller called the special meeting to order at 6:04 p.m. and two additions to the agenda were mentioned: gate hours at the compost area and the webinar for Wabash River Enhancement.

**Hawks Nest RFPQ** – Two submissions were received in response to advertising for a build-operate-transfer project for a lift station and force main. Each developer was present and greeted the council. A committee will take the proposals under advisement and report to the council at a later date.

**Development Guide** – Fees for services presented in the Development Guide were proposed at the January 11 meeting, and passed on first reading. Georgia Jones suggested the council replace the listed residential tap fee amount with a higher amount which is the current fee, \$1500.

**Motion** by Mary Jo Totten to approve ORD 2021-591 on second reading with a change to the fee for residential sewer connection, to be \$1500 consistent with the current ordinance. Second of Greg Jones, motion carried with unanimous vote.

**MOU with the Conservancy District** – Dave Buck provided a sample MOU document to Eric Burns to develop a similar agreement for the Main Street storm water improvements that will be reimbursed to the Conservancy. This will be approved March 8 prior to starting work on the project.

**Northgate Development** – Dave Buck set up a virtual meeting with property owners, architects, contractors, engineers and town representatives to address the current easement and frontage road issues on Northgate. There was discussion of options to relocate the driveway with a safer route to the intersection. The council is not be opposed to a new, additional access road at the I-65 northbound off ramp signal, however INDOT would need to approve that plan.

**Capital Plan** – A subcommittee will meet Tuesday February 16 at 3:30 p.m. to discuss the draft plan prepared by Butler, Fairman and Seufert.

**Fire Protection Territory** – The council discussed the options open to the town for fire protection. The best scenario for the town is to accept withdrawal from the North East Fire Territory and join Tippecanoe Township in a new territory comprised of only the two units.

**Motion** by Mary Jo Totten to adopt Ordinance 2021-593 to withdraw from the territory effective December 31, 2021. Second of Greg Jones, motion carried.

**Motion** by Mary Jo Totten to suspend the rules for adopting an ordinance, and consider it on second reading. Second of Steve Hahn, motion carried with unanimous vote.

**Motion** by Mary Jo Totten to adopt ORD 2021-593 on second reading. Second of Matt Coppock, motion carried with unanimous vote.

**Area Plan Commission** – Greg Jones gave an overview of APC research on solar energy and the concerns represented in UZO amendment #99.

**Motion** by Greg Jones to adopt Ordinance 2021-592 approving amendment #99 of the Unified Zoning Ordinance for Battle Ground. Second of Mary Jo Totten, motion carried with unanimous vote.

**New RDC Member** – The Redevelopment Commission needs two members, one appointed by Tippecanoe School Corporation and one appointed by the Council President. At this time there is no rush to fill the positions.

**New Town Hall** – Georgia Jones commented that research of potential locations continues but at this time there is no information to share.

**Compost Gate Hours** – The council discussed limiting the attended hours of the compost area during the winter. There was general agreement that the gate on Prophets Rock Road will be locked weekdays at the end of shift when the last employee leaves. When there is need, the hours will be reviewed again.

**Wabash River Enhancement** – President James Miller encouraged the council to participate in a scheduled event that will bring together stakeholders in the continued success of the Wabash River trail system, and Battle Ground is one of the them. Greg Jones plans to attend, and reminded the council that the outcomes of trail planning are years in the making. Battle Ground could see benefits in the future depending on how quickly each piece of the system is developed.

## **Minutes**

**Motion** by Mary Jo Totten to approve the minutes of February 8 meeting. Second of Matt Coppock, motion carried with unanimous vote.

## **Guest Comment**

Mary Jo Totten thanked Bill Jones for the information regarding the changes in the fire territory.

**Motion** to adjourn 6:52 p.m. by Mary Jo Totten

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Georgia Jones, Clerk Treasurer

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James Miller, Council President